Serial No. 10/550,819 Docket No. 49288.1500

Amendments To Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application: Listing of Claims:

 (Currently Amended) A surgical holder comprising a grasping member for grasping a tubular tissue, a manipulation member for manipulating the grasping member, and a connection portion with one end connected to the manipulation member, wherein:

the grasping member includes a first grasping plate, and a second grasping plate provided so as to oppose the first grasping plate in a movable manner so that they are able to become closer to each other or more distanced from each other:

the first grasping plate includes a retaining portion having an opening which is opened toward an <u>first</u> outer side of the first grasping plate and a supporting portion having a recessed portion <u>which extends towards a second outer side of the first grasping plate</u>, the <u>first outer side being opposed to the second outer side and the opening being of a U-shape or substantially a U-shape the opening being provided in one end of the first grasping plate and the recessed portion being provided in the other end of the first grasping plate,</u>

the first grasping plate-retaining portion includes an-two edge portions which has each having an elongated end portion, and the two edge portions together forming the peripheral portion of the opening to defines the shape of the opening, and the end portion of the edge portion having a length and being adapted-configured to be inserted into a tube of the tubular tissue for grasping the tubular tissue,

the second grasping plate includes a covering portion formed so as to cover an entire surface or a part of the opening of the first grasping plate, a non-covering portion which does not cover the first grasping plate, and a fixing portion having a curved portion, the covering portion being provided in one end of the second grasping plate and the curved portion being provided in the other end of the second grasping plate.

the curved portion opposing the recessed portion to form a <u>generally tubular</u> tissue grasping space for grasping the tubular tissue when the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate are positioned so as to oppose one another,

a first grasping portion which can grasp a part of the tubular tissue between the retaining portion of the first grasping plate and the covering portion of the second grasping plate are provided

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in one end portion of the grasping member, and the opening exposing another part of the tissue when a part of the tubular tissue is grasped by the first grasping portion; and

a second grasping portion which can form the tissue grasping space for the tubular tissue between the recessed portion of the first grasping plate and the curved portion of the second grasping plate is provided in another end portion of the grasping member.

- (Original) A surgical holder according to claim 1, wherein a tissue protection material is attached to an opposing surface of the first grasping plate and/or the second grasping plate.
- (Original) A surgical holder according to claim 2, wherein the tissue protection material is permeated with medicines.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A surgical holder comprising a grasping member for grasping a tubular tissue, a manipulation member for manipulating the grasping member, and a connection portion with one end connected to the manipulation member and the other end provided with a fixing tool, wherein:

the grasping member includes a first grasping plate, and

a second grasping plate provided so as to oppose the first grasping plate in a movable manner so that they are able to become closer to each other or more distanced from each other;

the grasping member is formed into a rectangular shape with the manipulation member elongated from a side thereof;

a first grasping portion which can grasp a part of the tubular tissue is formed between the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate, and an opening which is provided in the vicinity of the first grasping portion and exposes another part of the tissue are provided in one end portion of the grasping member, the opening being opened at [[an]] a first outer side of the first grasping portion and the opening being of a U-shape or substantially a U-shape;

the first grasping plate includes an-two edge portions which has each having an elongated end portion, and the two edge portions together forming the peripheral portion of the opening to

defines the shape of the opening, and the end portion of the edge portion having a length and being adapted configured to be inserted into a tube of the tubular tissue for grasping the tubular tissue,

a second grasping portion which can form a <u>generally tubular</u> tissue grasping space for the tubular tissue between the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate is provided in another end portion of the grasping member, the tissue grasping space and the opening being positioned at <u>respective-opposing</u> ends on one axis of the grasping member.

6. (Currently Amended) A surgical holder comprising a grasping member for grasping a tubular tissue, a manipulation member for manipulating the grasping member, and a connection portion connected to the manipulation member, wherein:

the grasping member includes a first grasping plate and a second grasping plate provided so as to oppose the first grasping plate in a movable manner so that they are able to become closer to each other or more distanced from each other:

the first grasping plate includes a retaining portion having an opening of a U-shape or substantially a U-shape, and a supporting portion having a recessed portion, the opening being provided in one a first end of the first grasping plate and the recessed portion being provided in the other a second end of the first grasping plate, the first and second ends of the first grasping plate being opposed to each other:

the first grasping plate includes an two edge portions which has each having an elongated end portion, and the two edge portions together forming the peripheral portion of the opening to defines the shape of the opening, the end portion of the edge portion having a length and being adapted configured to be inserted into a tube of the tubular tissue for grasping the tubular tissue, and

the second grasping plate includes a covering portion formed to cover an entire surface or a part of the opening of the first grasping plate, a non-covering portion which does not cover the first grasping plate, and a fixing portion having a curved portion, the curved portion opposing the recessed portion to form a generally tubular tissue grasping space for grasping the tubular tissue when the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate are positioned so as to oppose one another.

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7. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 6, wherein a surrounding tissue of the tubular tissue is grasped by the edged portion and the covering portion of the second grasping plate.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 6, wherein the tubular tissue is grasped with one point of the tubular tissue being grasped by the retaining portion of the first grasping plate and the covering portion of the second grasping plate, and another point being grasped by the tissue grasping space formed by the recessed portion of the first grasping plate and the curved portion of the second grasping plate.

10. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 6, wherein the edge portion is inserted into a tube of the tubular tissue to grasp the tubular tissue.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 1, wherein the recessed portion provided is recessed toward a thickness of the first grasping plate.

13. (Currently Amended) A surgical holder according to claim 5, wherein the generally tubular tissue grasping space is formed by a recessed portion on the first grasping plate and a curved portion on the second grasping plate, when the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate are positioned so as to oppose one another, and the recessed portion provided is recessed toward a thickness of the first grasping plate.

14. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 6, wherein the recessed portion provided is recessed toward a thickness of the first grasping plate.

15-17. (Cancelled)

- 18. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 1, wherein the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate are of flat plate shape, the curved portion is provided on a fixing portion which is provided to extend from the covering portion through an elongated piece, and the non-covering portion of a rectangular shape is formed by an edge of the covering portion, the elongated piece, and the fixing portion.
- 19. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 5, wherein the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate are of flat plate shape, the curved portion is provided on a fixing portion which is provided to extend from the covering portion through an elongated piece, and the non-covering portion of a rectangular shape is formed by an edge of the covering portion, the elongated piece, and the fixing portion.
- 20. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 6, wherein the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate are of flat plate shape, the curved portion is provided on a fixing portion which is provided to extend from the covering portion through an elongated piece, and the non-covering portion of a rectangular shape is formed by an edge of the covering portion, the elongated piece, and the fixing portion.
- 21. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 1, wherein the tubular tissue is a blood vessel.
- 22. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 5, wherein the tubular tissue is a blood vessel.
- 23. (Previously Presented) A surgical holder according to claim 6, wherein the tubular tissue is a blood vessel.
- 24. (Currently Amended) A surgical holder according to claim 1, wherein the recessed portion provided is raised relative to forms an indentation in a plane defined by the remaining portion of the first grasping plate, and the curved portion is raised relative to the remaining portion of the second

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grasping plate, to form [[a]] the generally tubular tissue grasping space with the opposed recessed portion for grasping blood vessels.

- 25. (Currently Amended) A surgical holder according to claim 5, the generally tubular tissue grasping space is formed by a recessed portion on the first grasping plate and a curved portion on the second grasping plate, when the first grasping plate and the second grasping plate are positioned so as to oppose one another, and wherein the recessed portion provided is raised relative to forms an indentation in a plane defined by the remaining portion of the first grasping plate, and the curved portion is raised relative to the remaining portion of the second grasping plate, to form [[a]] the generally tubular tissue grasping space with the opposed recessed portion for grasping blood vessels.
- 26. (Currently Amended) A surgical holder according to any of claim 6, wherein the recessed portion provided is raised relative to forms an indentation in a plane defined by the remaining portion of the first grasping plate, and the curved portion is raised relative to the remaining portion of the second grasping plate, to form a the generally tubular tissue grasping space with the opposed recessed portion for grasping blood vessels.
- 27. (New) A surgical holder according to claim 1, wherein the two elongated edge portion form part of the peripheral portion of the first grasping plate.
- 28. (New) A surgical holder according to claim 5, wherein the two elongated edge portion form part of the peripheral portion of the first grasping plate.
- 29. (New) A surgical holder according to claim 6, wherein the two elongated edge portion form part of the peripheral portion of the first grasping plate.